

**ARRANGING DATES ON A TIMELINE**

1. First, look at all of the dates and separate them by BC/AD or BCE/CE  
   \*Remember … if dates don’t have any indicator, they are A.D.
2. Then, arrange each set of dates in order:   
   * **BC:** Larger numbers are farthest away from the birth of Christ, to the left “0” (they “count down” to his birth)
   * **AD:** Smaller numbers are closest to the birth of Christ (they “count up” from his birth) *For example, the year 2015 is….two thousand & fifteen years after the birth of Christ*
3. Look at the dates already on the timeline and decide where your dates belong.

**STEPS IN CREATING A TIMELINE**

1. Arrange the numbers in chronological order from the oldest to the most recent. Round the least and greatest numbers to easy whole numbers ending in zero  
     
    Oldest Newest
2. Choose one:
   * If the numbers are from the same era, subtract to get the total years.
   * If the numbers are from both the B.C. and A.D. eras, add the two numbers to get the total years.
3. Decide how many intervals (parts) the timeline should have by dividing the total years (in step 3) by 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, or 10 parts. You can’t have a remainder! Use your calculator if necessary.
4. Use a ruler to make neat, equal intervals.